Claims:

1. An apparatus for preventing erosion of wellbore components comprising:
a wellscreen; and
a coating disposed on the wellscreen.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the coating is a metal-based coating.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the metal-base coating includes nickel.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the metal-base coating includes phosphorous.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the coating is an organic-based coating.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the organic-based coating is a phenolic resin.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein a ceramic or cermet is added to the phenolic resin.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, whereby the coated apparatus losses less mass overtime in a wellbore than an apparatus without the coating.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the mass loss of the apparatus is about 150mg to 350mg when slurry tested for a six-hour period.

10. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the nickel concentration of the coating is from about 85% to about 95%.

11. The apparatus of claim 4, where in the phosphorous concentration of the coating is from about 5% to about 15%.

12. A method for fabricating an erosion resistant wellbore component comprising:

providing a wellbore component; and

treating the wellbore component with erosion resistant material to reduce the amount of mass lost from the wellbore component over time in a wellbore.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the erosion resistant material includes a metal-based coating.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the metal-based coating includes nickel.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the metal-based coating includes phosphorous.

16. The method of claim 12, wherein the treating step is conducted by plating the wellbore component.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein plating is electroless plating.

18. The method of claim 12, wherein the treating step further comprises a post-plating treatment of the wellbore component subsequent to electroless plating.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the post-plating treatment includes heating the plated wellbore component at a temperature of about 350°F for a period of about three hours.

20. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of inserting the treated wellbore component into a wellbore.

21. The method of claim 12, whereby the treatment results in a mass loss of about 150 mg to about 350 mg when the component is slurry tested for a six-hour period.

22. The method of claim 12, wherein the treating results in a wellbore component which, when slurry tested will lose no more than 350 mg of mass over a period of six-hours.

23. The method of claim 14, wherein the nickel concentration is from about 85% to about 95%.

24. The method of claim 15, wherein the phosphorous concentration is from about 5% to about 15%.

25. The method of claim 12, wherein the erosion resistant materials include an organic-based coating.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the organic-based coating is a phenolic resin.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein ceramics or cermets may be added to the phenolic resin.

28. An apparatus for preventing erosion of wellbore components comprising:

a wellscreen having a screen portion and a perforated inner tube portion; and

a coating disposed on the screen portion.

29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the coating includes nickel and phosphorous, and the nickel concentration is from about 85% to about 95%, and the phosphorous concentration is from about 5% to about 15%.

30. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the coating include an organic-based phenolic resin containing ceramic or cement.

31. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the coating is disposed on the inner tube portion.